recommendations of the Ethics Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the subject in its latest report;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any steps taken to correct the same; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2002 (No. 4 of 2002) was promulgated on 24.8.2002. The copy of the said Ordinance has already been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 20.11.2002.

(c) to (f) The Ordinance is based on the consensus arrived at among the political parties in the meetings held on 8th July 2002 and 2nd August 2002. The parties did not feel inclined to accept all the guidelines of the Supreme Court of India. However, some of the major concerns have been met in the Ordinance. Further, as far as the recommendations of the Ethics Committee in its Third Report are concerned, the Report does not touch upon the issues which have been dealt in the Ordinance. As such, it cannot be said that the Ordinance is against any specific recommendation of the Ethics Committee.

Amendments in Divorce Law

559. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for amendment to the divorce law in the larger interest of harassed women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.